



308 KEARNS BUILDING
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84101



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VIA FAX TRANSMITTAL & CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT

July 29, 1992

Mr. Mike Zimmerman, Environmental Protection Specialist
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region VIII (8HWM-ER)
999 18th Street, Suite 500
Denver, Colorado 80202-2405

Dear Mr. Zimmerman:

This letter is written to notify the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") that the monitoring wells which were installed by EPA's contractor, Ecology and Environment, Inc. ("E&E"), were improperly constructed and completed, and have resulted in the potential contamination of local groundwater.

During the period of June 23 through June 27, 1992, EPA's contractor, E&E, drilled one monitoring well directly in the Park City Municipal Corporation landfill ("Landfill") against the advice of United Park City Mines Company ("United Park") and its consultants, Pioneer Technical Service, Inc. ("Consultants") and against EPA guidance. EPA's contractor, E&E, drilled this monitoring well directly through the Landfill and breached the impervious clay layer which had formed a continuous barrier between the Landfill materials and the underlying groundwater. The formerly continuous clay barrier was not repaired by E&E during completion of the monitoring well; thereby, allowing the underlying groundwater to flow up the well under pressure, out through the filter pack along the top of the clay barrier and into the formerly dry Landfill. When this water discharges from the base of the Landfill, either as springs or to Silver Creek, it will be contaminated by whatever is in the Landfill.

Before the installation of this monitoring well, the Landfill was isolated from the groundwater. EPA and its contractor, E&E, have breached the impervious, natural clay barrier and are fully responsible for the ensuing groundwater and surface water contamination.

Likewise, the other two monitoring wells also breached the impervious clay barrier and the clay barrier was not properly repaired in either of these monitoring wells. The result of not properly repairing the clay barrier is again, the

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upward migration of the formerly confined groundwater into formerly dry geological formations or construction debris and Landfill material and eventually out of the Landfill area to surface water.

These events and problems are more fully detailed in our Consultant's report which is attached hereto.

Due to the very serious nature of these problems, we strongly recommend and will expect that these monitoring wells not be sampled during your proposed investigation of Richardson Flat and that all three monitoring wells be correctly plugged and abandoned as soon as possible.

Your prompt attention to these very serious problems will be appreciated.

Yours truly,



Edwin L. Osika, Jr.
Executive Vice President

ELO,Jr./rfwel

encl.

cc: Region VIII Director